

DATE ISSUED:

REPORT NO.

ATTENTION: Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee
Agenda of:

SUBJECT: City of San Diego Crime Briefing
January – September 2008 Index Crimes

REFERENCE: N/A

SUMMARY

This is an informational item only. No action is required.

BACKGROUND

The San Diego Police Department presents reports to the Committee on index crimes and other crimes on a quarterly year-to-date basis.

This report summarizes January through September 2008 index crimes, as well as domestic violence, gang violence, hate crimes, juvenile crimes, and traffic incidents. Index crimes include murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, and motor vehicle theft. The Department of Justice Uniform Crime Reporting program collects information on these crime types from law enforcement agencies throughout the United States and uses the data to measure crime nationwide.

DISCUSSION

The total number of index crimes in San Diego decreased 7.6% in the first three quarters of 2008 compared to the first three quarters of 2007. The index crime rate for January through September is 34.91, compared to 37.96 during the same period in 2007.

	Jan - Sep	Jan - Sep	%	(Rates per 1,000)		Clearances	
	2007	2008	Change	2007	2008	2007	2008
Murder	41	45	9.8%	0.04	0.04	78.0%	104.4%
Rape	207	278	34.3%	0.21	0.28	57.5%	49.6%
Robbery	1,538	1,503	-2.3%	1.53	1.49	38.2%	36.3%
Agg. Assault	2,936	2,730	-7.0%	2.93	2.71	51.8%	55.4%
Violent Crimes	4,722	4,556	-3.5%	4.71	4.52	47.8%	49.2%
Burglary	5,857	5,640	-3.7%	5.84	5.60	11.1%	12.6%
Theft	17,751	16,712	-5.9%	17.70	16.59	13.3%	14.0%
Veh. Theft	9,730	8,253	-15.2%	9.70	8.19	2.0%	1.6%
Property Crimes	33,338	30,605	-8.2%	33.24	30.38	9.6%	10.4%
TOTAL INDEX	38,060	35,161	-7.6%	37.95	34.90	14.3%	15.4%

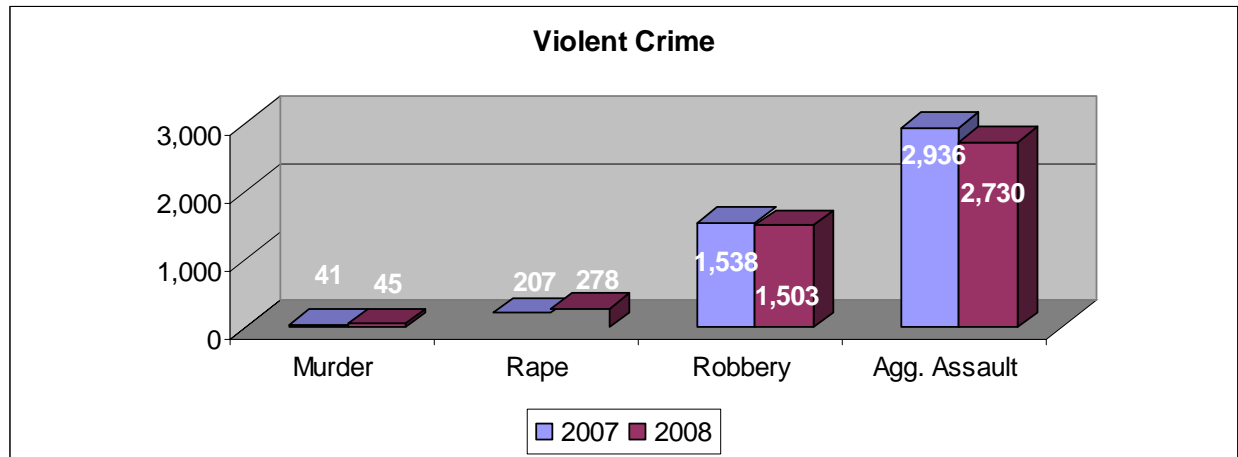
The table below shows that the annualized crime rate for the first nine months of 2008 in comparison to crime rates in the previous ten years.

San Diego Crime Rates per 1,000 Population 1998 to 2008			
Year	Violent Crime Rate	Property Crime Rate	Total Index Crime Rate
1998	7.20	37.63	44.83
1999	5.95	33.86	39.81
2000	5.61	30.69	36.30
2001	5.92	34.41	40.33
2002	5.73	34.19	39.92
2003	5.78	36.38	42.15
2004	5.23	35.12	40.35
2005	5.06	35.39	40.45
2006	4.87	34.48	39.35
2007	4.71	33.25	37.96
2008*	4.52	30.38	34.90

*2008 crime rates annualized based on January through September 2008 data

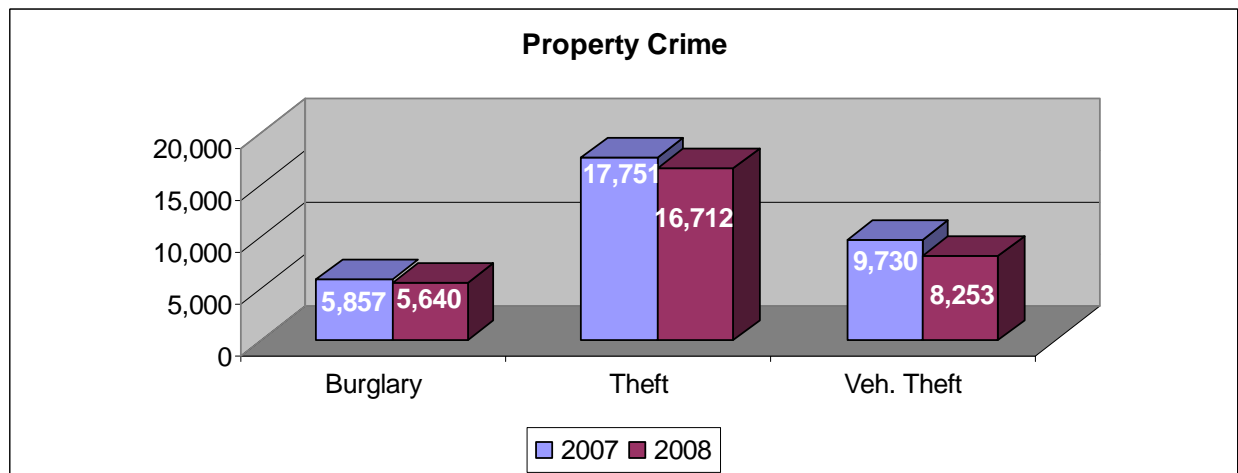
Violent Crimes

Violent crimes decreased by 3.5% in the first nine months of 2008 compared to the first nine months of 2007. When violent crimes are broken down, robbery and aggravated assaults both decreased; however, homicides and rapes increased citywide.



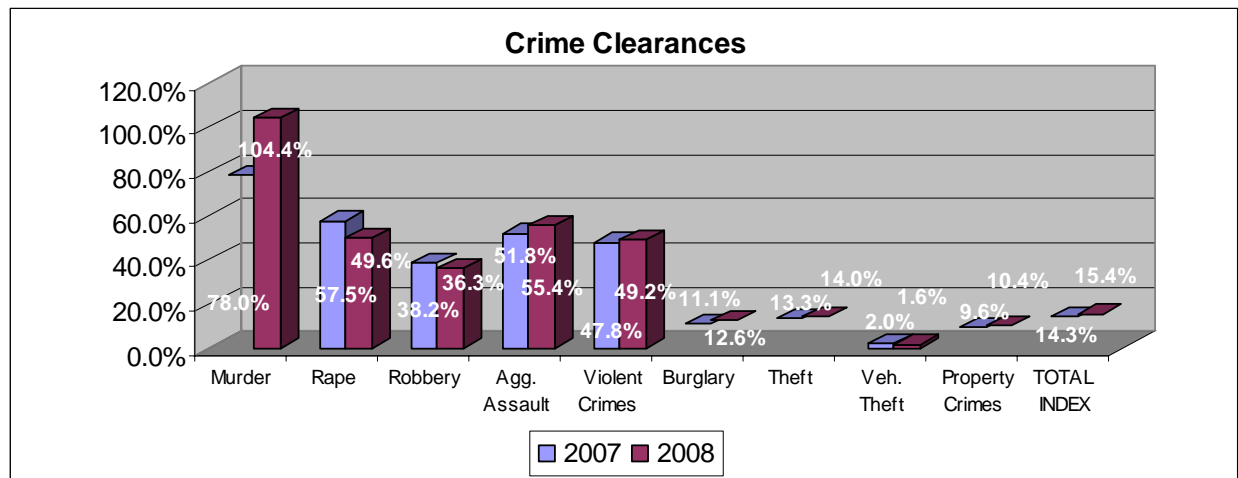
Property Crimes

Property crimes decreased 8.2% during the first nine months of 2008 compared to the same period in 2007. The number of burglary, theft, and vehicle theft cases all decreased.



Clearances

The percentage of index crimes cleared during the first nine months of 2008 was 15.4%, compared to 14.3% for January through September of 2007. Police cleared 49.2% of violent crimes in the first three quarters of 2008 compared to 47.8% in the first three quarters of 2007. The property crime clearance rate for the first three quarters of 2008 was 10.4% compared to 9.6% during the first nine months of 2007.



Domestic Violence

The total number of domestic violence cases decreased 5.4% during January through September 2008 compared to the same period in 2007. Criminal and Non-Criminal cases decreased 5.7% and 4.1% respectively.

San Diego Domestic Violence January to September			
	2007	2008	07 to 08 % Change
Criminal Cases:			
Firearms	38	37	-2.6%
Knife/Cutting Instrument	192	161	-16.1%
Other Dangerous Weapon	846	747	-11.7%
Personal Weapon (hands, etc.)	3,972	3,817	-3.9%
Total Criminal Cases	5,048	4,762	-5.7%
Non-Criminal Calls:			
	1,181	1,133	-4.1%
Total Cases	6,229	5,895	-5.4%

Hate Crimes

The total number of hate crimes decreased from 44 cases in the first nine months of 2007 to 37 cases during the same period in 2008. Hate crimes based on ethnicity accounted for 54.1% of the cases and hate crimes based on sexual orientation accounted for another 35.1% of the cases. Religion was the basis for the remaining 10.8% of the total cases in the first three quarters of 2008.

San Diego Reported Hate Crimes January to September				
	2007		2008	07 to 08 % Change
Hate Crimes	44		37	-15.9%
	2007		2008	
	Count	% of Total	Count	% of Total
Hate Crimes				
Ethnicity	20	45.5%	20	54.1%
Sexual Orientation	20	45.5%	13	35.1%
Religion	4	9.1%	4	10.8%
Gender	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Disability	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

Gang Crimes

Crimes attributed to gang members increased 8.1% during the first three quarters of 2008 compared to the first three quarters of 2007. Shootings and stabbings attributed to gang members decreased 18.7% and 7.9% respectively, while other assaults by gang members increased 47.9%. Arrests of gang members increased 2.9% in the first nine months of this year compared to the same period last year.

San Diego			
Crimes Committed by Gang Members			
January to September			
Crime Type	2007	2008	07 to 08 % Change
All Crimes:			
Homicide	16	13	-18.8%
Attempt Homicide	12	11	-8.3%
Assault	197	227	15.2%
Robbery	79	105	32.9%
Auto Theft	55	40	-27.3%
Other	359	380	5.8%
Total	718	776	8.1%
Assaults & Attempt Homicides:			
Shooting	75	61	-18.7%
Stabbing	38	35	-7.9%
Other	96	142	47.9%
Total	209	238	13.9%
Drive-By Shootings	17	9	-47.1%
Arrests of Gang Members	2,582	2,656	2.9%

Data supplied by Gang Unit 10/23/2008

Traffic Incidents

The total number of collisions remained relatively constant during the first nine months of 2008 when compared to the same period in 2007. DUI arrests are up 11.6% as well as DUI collisions are up 13.6% over the same period last year. Total citations issued increased by 6.9%.

San Diego Traffic Incidents January to September			
	2007	2008	07 to 08 % Change
Collisions			
Fatal	42	37	-11.9%
Injury	3,685	3,717	0.9%
Property Damage Only	5,226	5,149	-1.5%
Total	8,953	8,903	-0.6%
Citations	74,914	80,113	6.9%
DUI			
Arrests	2,773	3,095	11.6%
Collisions	617	701	13.6%

Juvenile Crimes

The number of juvenile victims of violent crimes decreased overall 11.5% for January through September 2008 compared to 2007. More specifically, the number of juvenile victims of violent crimes increased during daytime hours by 1.4%; however, there was a decrease in the number of juvenile victims of violent crimes in the after school hours and in the curfew hours, 11.1% and 18.8% respectively. Juvenile arrests increased overall 4.3%. All categories, including daytime hours, after school hours, and curfew hours showed increases of 6.0%, 1.6%, and 5.7% correspondingly.

San Diego Juvenile Statistics January to September			
Juvenile Victims of Violent Crimes:	2007	2008	07 to 08 % Change
Daytime Hours (0830 to 1329)			
Murder	0	0	0.0%
Rape	8	13	62.5%
Robbery	24	26	8.3%
Aggravated Assault	42	36	-14.3%
Daytime Total	74	75	1.4%
After School Hours (1330 to 2159)			
Murder	3	2	-33.3%
Rape	26	23	-11.5%
Robbery	175	161	-8.0%
Aggravated Assault	184	159	-13.6%
After School Total	388	345	-11.1%
Curfew Hours (2200 to 0829)			
Murder	1	1	0.0%
Rape	20	24	20.0%
Robbery	55	46	-16.4%
Aggravated Assault	73	50	-31.5%
Curfew Total	149	121	-18.8%
ALL HOURS TOTAL	611	541	-11.5%

The enhanced curfew enforcement began on June 3, 1994.

San Diego
Juvenile Statistics
January to September

Juvenile Arrests:	2007	2008	07 to 08 % Change
Daytime Hours (0830 to 1329)			
Felony	581	595	2.4%
Misdemeanor	1,549	1,647	6.3%
Other	64	84	31.3%
Daytime Total	2,194	2,326	6.0%
After School Hours (1330 to 2159)			
Felony	1,003	998	-0.5%
Misdemeanor	1,223	1,240	1.4%
Other	82	107	30.5%
After School Total	2,308	2,345	1.6%
Curfew Hours (2200 to 0829)			
Felony	473	448	-5.3%
Misdemeanor	533	478	-10.3%
Other	839	1,025	22.2%
Curfew Total	1,845	1,951	5.7%
ALL HOURS TOTAL	6,347	6,622	4.3%

The enhanced curfew enforcement began on June 3, 1994.

Daytime Loitering enforcement began in June 1996

Response Times

San Diego Police Department dispatches incoming calls according to a five step hierarchy of priorities as defined below. Response times for the first three quarters of 2008 improved at all priority levels compared to the same period in 2007. The number of calls dispatched between January and September of 2008 increased in priority categories E, 1, 2, and 3; however, in priority category 4, Dispatched Calls decreased 10.1%.

Priority E: Imminent threat to life, dispatch immediately

Priority 1: Threat to life, serious crime in progress, dispatch immediately

Priority 2: Threat to life has passed or does not exist, minor crime in progress/serious crime where suspect has left scene, dispatch as quickly as possible

Priority 3: Non-urgent requests for service such as noise only loud parties, report only calls, and crime scene follow-up, dispatch as soon as possible after higher priority calls

Priority 4: Minor requests for service such as found property, most parking violations, etc., dispatch when there are no higher priority calls awaiting assignment in the beat

Average Response Times by Priority January through September

Priority	2007	2008	% Change
E	7.08	6.73	-4.9%
1	13.86	13.20	-4.8%
2	25.50	24.52	-3.8%
3	66.97	63.03	-5.9%
4	60.27	59.30	-1.6%

Dispatched Calls by Priority January through September

Priority	2007	2008	% Change
E	17,257	17,918	3.8%
1	167,716	179,567	7.1%
2	188,583	194,668	3.2%
3	65,745	66,582	1.3%
4	35,347	31,794	-10.1%

Respectfully submitted,

William M. Lansdowne
Chief of Police

Jill Olen
Deputy Chief Operating Officer
Public Safety/Homeland Security

LANSDOWNE/eb